



OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



MUMBAI: FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2024 • VOL. NO. 1 • Issue • No. 55. DIV. OF FLYCREATIVE ONLINE PVT. LTD. (A unit of Creative Group) • 7 PAGES

India, Malaysia sign pacts on jobs, repatriation of workers

NEW DELHI: India and Malaysia have decided to elevate their ties to the level of comprehensive strategic partnership following a bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Malaysian counterpart Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, who is on a three-day visit to India. This is Ibrahim's first visit to India as the prime minister.

"We have decided that the India-Malaysia partnership will be elevated to a comprehensive strategic partnership," Modi

said in his media statement after the talks held at Hyderabad House. "We believe that there is still a lot of potential in economic co-operation. Bilateral trade and investment should be expanded."

The two sides also deliberated upon new possibilities of co-operation in the defence sector. "We have unanimous views in combating terrorism and extremism," Modi said.

In an apparent reference to the situation in South China Sea, Modi said:

"We are committed to



Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Joint press statements in New Delhi.

the freedom of navigation, overflight as per international laws and favour resolution of all disputes peacefully."

In his remarks, Ibrahim called Modi his "brother" and said all issues, sensitive or likewise, were discussed in a reflection

of the true meaning of friendship between the two countries. Modi described Malaysia as an "important partner" of India in the ASEAN and Indo-Pacific region.

The focus of the talks was on expanding trade and investment and exploring co-operation in new and emerging areas such as fintech and semi-conductors. The two sides also inked a number of pacts, including on employment and repatriation of workers.

UAE amnesty: smooth transition for overstayers expected

DUBAI: UAE authorities discussed how the upcoming visa amnesty scheme would be implemented from Sept 1.

The Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship, Customs and Ports Security (ICP) met key representatives from various government entities to ensure a smooth transition for overstayers who would benefit from the two-month grace period.

The ICP announced earlier this month that residency visa violators would have the chance to get their fines waived and regularise their status or

exit the country without legal repercussions. Illegals can either choose to stay in the UAE on a new visa or leave for good. Individuals who overstayed their residence visas won't have to pay the Dh50-per-day penalty.

The ICP has been holding co-ordination meetings with various stakeholders across the country in the run-up to the amnesty scheme's implementation. Officials earlier revealed that smart systems and artificial intelligence would be used to simplify the procedures related to the amnesty.

Mumbai's Royal Thai consulate-general organises wellness & medical tourism health promotion trip

MUMBAI: A delegation from India consisting of



Participants at a Wellness & health Medical and tourism event held in Thailand.

of the prominent Homeopathic Doctor Padma Shri Mukesh Batra, President, SKAL Inter-

national, Mumbai South and Dr. Mickey Mehta, President, SKAL Inter-

from Travel Agents Federation of India (TAFI),

National President, Mr. Ajay Prakash, Mr. V.S. Abdulkareem, CMD, Cre-

Outlook for blue-collar jobs in GCC nations (Part-I)

Blue-collar workforce is a cornerstone of economic growth, both in India and in the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) countries. In India, it is projected that by 2030, about 70pc of the 90 million new jobs created will be in blue-collar roles, underscoring the importance of this workforce. The GCC region, which includes Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain, has long been a significant destination for Indian blue-collar workers. This report provides an analysis of current trends,

the distribution of the Indian blue-collar workforce in the GCC, the demand for specific job roles and the challenges and opportuni-



ties these trends present. **CURRENT TRENDS IN THE BLUE-COLLAR WORKFORCE IN THE**

GCC LABOR SHIFTS : There has been a significant shift in the source states of Indian blue-collar workers migrating to

the GCC. Historically, Kerala was the leading contributor; however, its contribution has dropped by

90pc. States like UP and Bihar have emerged as the top contributors to the GCC workforce.

Increased migrations

The early months of 2023 witnessed a 50pc increase in the migration of Indian blue-collar workers to the GCC. This surge reflects the growing demand for labour in the region, driven by large-scale infrastructure projects and the expansion of sectors such as manufacturing, logistics and hospitality.

PREFERRED DESTINATIONS: The top destinations for Indian blue-collar workers remain Saudi

Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, and Oman. These countries continue to attract a large number of workers due to their booming economies and the availability of jobs in key sectors.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES: There has been a notable demographic shift within the blue-collar workforce in the GCC, with an increasing number of women joining the workforce, particularly in the hospitality sector. This change is indicative of broader social and economic transformations

(Cont. on page-2)



SEBI issue needs probe

The Hindenburg charges against Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch (and her husband Dhaval Buch) cannot be any longer dismissed as mere allegations. Though one admits that the credibility of Hindenburg, a US stock market short-selling operator, is questionable, all its allegations have been proved right without doubt. While SEBI, the capital market watchdog, is known for taking a no-nonsense, strict action against erring brokers and companies, ironically the regulator itself is in the midst of a crisis now.

Till 1988, the Indian capital market did not have a proper regulator and powerful brokers were running the show. Following the passage of the SEBI Act by Parliament in 1992, it was given autonomous and statutory powers.

It all started 18 months back when Hindenburg accused the Adani Group of stock manipulation and an accounting fraud. The sensational report not only wiped off about \$150 billion in market value from the 10 publicly-traded Adani group companies, but also led to a broader market crash.

Hindenburg believes that SEBI's unwillingness to take meaningful action against suspect offshore shareholders in the Adani Group may stem from Buch's complicity in the matter. SEBI dismissed the charges and maintained that it had "duly investigated" Hindenburg's allegations against the Adani Group. It also added that its chairperson had made the required disclosures in terms of holdings of securities and their transfers and that she had recused herself in matters involving potential conflicts of interest.

Hindenburg in its latest report, alleged that the Buchs first appeared to have opened their account with the controversial offshore investment vehicle named IPE Plus Fund -1 in June 2015, in Singapore. A declaration of funds with the asset management firm India Infoline (now 360 ONE) states that the source of the investment was salary and the couple's net worth was estimated at \$10 million.

Hindenburg alleged that the SEBI chief and her husband held stakes in a multi-layered offshore fund with miniscule assets, traversing known high-risk jurisdictions, overseen by a company with reported ties to the Wirecard scandal, in the same entity run by an Adani director and significantly used by Vinod Adani in the alleged Adani cash siphoning scandal.

The first issue is investment in an offshore fund allegedly having links to the Adani Group and Madhabi's ownership in consulting entities. The second includes Dhaval's appointment as Senior Advisor to Blackstone Private Equity in 2019. True, the Buchs have clarified that the investments were made as private citizens in Singapore and almost two years before Madhabi joined SEBI.

The issue has become murkier and murkier with the revelation that Madhabi Buch continues to earn revenue from Agora Advisory (consultants to Adani), where she holds 99pc stake, while continuing her tenure at SEBI.

There are issues of conflict of interests, making profit and above all the role of Dhaval Buch. The good name of SEBI is being destroyed. Unfortunately, the government has refused to order an enquiry into the matter. But the issue will die down only if Madhabi Buch resigns or removed by the government from the SEBI chairmanship. The government should order a CBI enquiry into the whole episode.

LIPSYNCH

"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."
 — Arthur Ashe

Mumbai's Royal Thai consulate-general...

(Cont. from page-1)
 tive Group and Mr. Rajesh Poddar, Secretary, Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI), Western India, Mr. Suresh G. Gulrajani, Vice President SKAL Mumbai South and the President of Indian Association of Thailand, Mr. Chuan Thakur and Ms. Nattasuda Mettprasert, Deputy Consul-General of Royal Thai Consulate-General Mumbai participated in the Wellness and Healthcare Expo-2024 held at BITEC Bangna, Bangkok, Thailand.

This prestigious trip offered a significant platform for promoting Healthcare and Wellness co-operation in collaboration between Thailand and India.

Dr. Mukesh Batra and Dr. Mickey Mehta de-

livered a comprehensive speeches related to the Wellness and Healthcare and had a comprehensive presentation so as to promote Wellness and Healthcare between India and Thailand and to collaborate the vertical and to promote tourism between the two nations as well.

Medical Tourism in Thailand is thriving and has become one of the significant industries. Thailand is known for providing high-quality medical care at a fraction of the cost compared to Western World. With a well-established tourism infrastructure, it is easy for international patients to travel to Thailand and many hospitals offer medical tourism packages that include accommodation, airport

transfers and concierge services.

Thailand is also known for its holistic approach to health, offering alternative treatments such as traditional Thai Medicine Spa therapies and wellness retreat which can complement conventional medical treatments.

Thailand's appeal as a tourism destination adds value to wellness and healthcare tourism, allowing patients to combine their medical treatment with a vacation in a beautiful, culturally rich and forefront in the hospitality sector so to collaborate between India and Thailand in this sector will boost tourism movements, so to lead multiple benefits to both the countries, said Mr. V.S. Abdulkareem, CMD, Creative Group.

Outlook for blue collar jobs...

(Cont. from page-1)
 within the region.

CHALLENGES AND INITIATIVES: Despite the growing demand for blue-collar workers, challenges such as recruitment malpractices, legal issues and poor working conditions persist. However, several initiatives are underway to address these challenges, including efforts to improve recruitment practices, enhance legal rights and promote skill enhancement programmes through partnerships between India and GCC countries.

The Indian expatriate community in the GCC is one of the largest in the re-

gion, with over nine million Indians living and working there. The distribution of this workforce across the GCC countries is as follows:

STATUS OF INDIAN WORKERS IN GULF COUNTRIES: 1) Indian Diaspora in GCC Nations-The Ministry Of External Affairs stated that about 8.88 million NRIs live in six Gulf nations. Specifically, 3.41 million NRIs reside in the UAE, 2.59 million in Saudi Arabia, 1.02 million in Kuwait, 0.74 million in Qatar, 0.77 million in Oman and 0.32 million in Bahrain.

Indians constitute the

largest expatriate community in the GCC nations, making up around 30pc of the total expatriate workforce in the region.

2) State wise trend of migrating workforce-Kerala Migration Survey (RMS) 2023 estimates that 2.2 million people from the state have migrated, with 80pc residing in the GCC countries.

Of late, UP and Bihar have begun replacing Kerala, which was a significant contributor of the blue-collar workforce, from India to the GCC region. This has been highlighted by UAE-based organisation, Huntr. (To be continued)

India, Malaysia sign pacts on jobs....

(Cont. from page-1)
Joint statement

In a joint statement issued after the meeting, the two PMs said they "condemn terrorism and agree to call upon states to reject terrorism in all its forms and manifestations". Both underlined that no country should harbour terrorists and agreed to work together to bring perpetrators of terrorism to justice expeditiously.

They also agreed to

recognise and vigorously address the "linkages between terrorism and transnational organised crime", the statement said.

"The two leaders had extensive discussions on trade and commerce, defence and security on cultural exchanges, people to people ties, on emerging areas like digital technologies, semi-conductors, renewable energy and sustainable development," officials from the ministry of external affairs said.

Modi and Ibrahim had developed a very "close rapport and personal connection" during the Raisina Dialogue 2019, officials said. Ibrahim said his country would reinvigorate relations with India in all fields. "There are so many areas that we need to explore further," he said.

Ibrahim's visit comes at a time when India and Malaysia have marked around 10 years of enhanced strategic partnership.

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US Dollar	84.80	83.75
Euro	94.40	93.35
Australian Dollar	57.41	56.36
Japanese Yen	0.60	0.57
Canadian Dollar	62.64	61.59
Singapore Dollar	65.11	64.06
Swedish krona	9.22	7.43
UAE Dirham	23.24	22.71
Swiss Franc (CHF)	99.62	98.12
British Pound	110.71	109.66
New Zealand Dollar	52.51	51.16
Thai Baht	2.56	2.36
Hong Kong Dollar	11.73	10.42
Saudi Arabian Riyal	23.08	22.13
Bahraini Dinar	228.80	214.80
Chinese Yuan	12.68	10.88
Danish Krone	13.04	12.04
Kuwaiti Dinar	280.36	264.36
Malaysian Ringgit	19.66	18.83
Omani Rial	224.05	212.05
Qatari Riyal	23.81	21.56
South African Rand	5.13	4.29

Boeing suspends 777X flight tests after part failure

NEW YORK: Boeing has suspended flight testing of its new 777X wide-body jet after identifying the failure of a part connecting the engine to the body of the aircraft, the latest in a long line of quality control issues for the troubled US aerospace giant. "During scheduled maintenance, we identified a component that did not perform as designed," the US aerospace giant told-hannels.

"Our team is replacing the part and capturing any learnings from the component and will resume flight testing when ready," it added, confirming an earlier report by specialist website The Air Current.

Boeing has been beset in recent years with concerns about safety and quality control, with a near-catastrophic incident on an Alaska Airlines Boeing 737 MAX in January bringing renewed pressure on the company.



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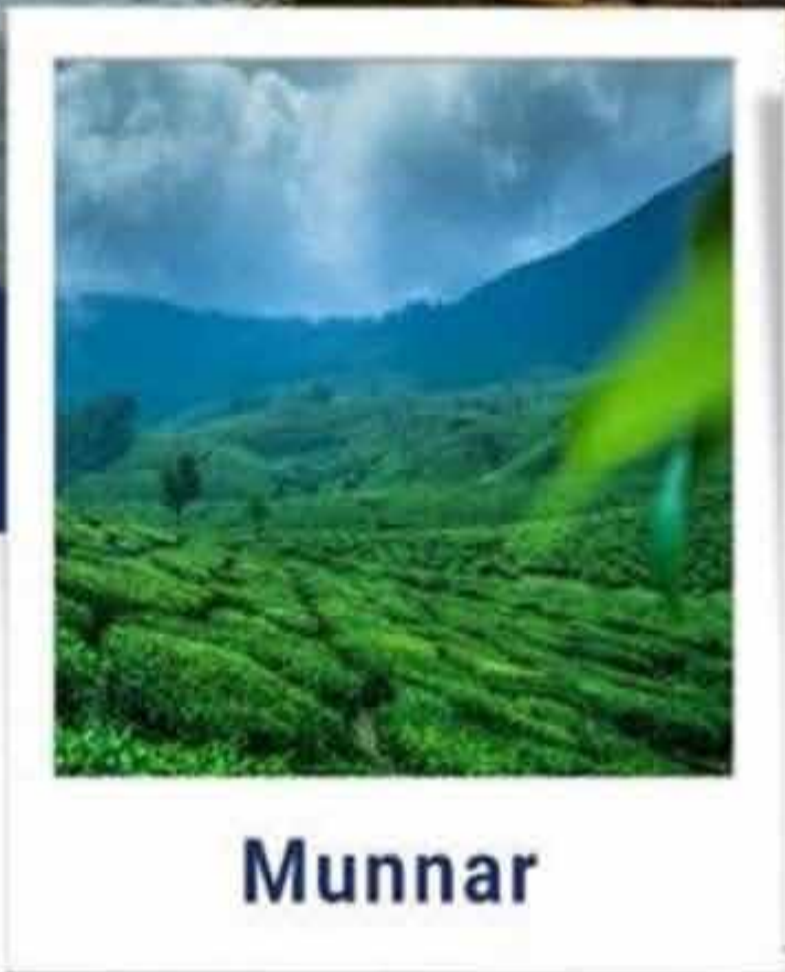
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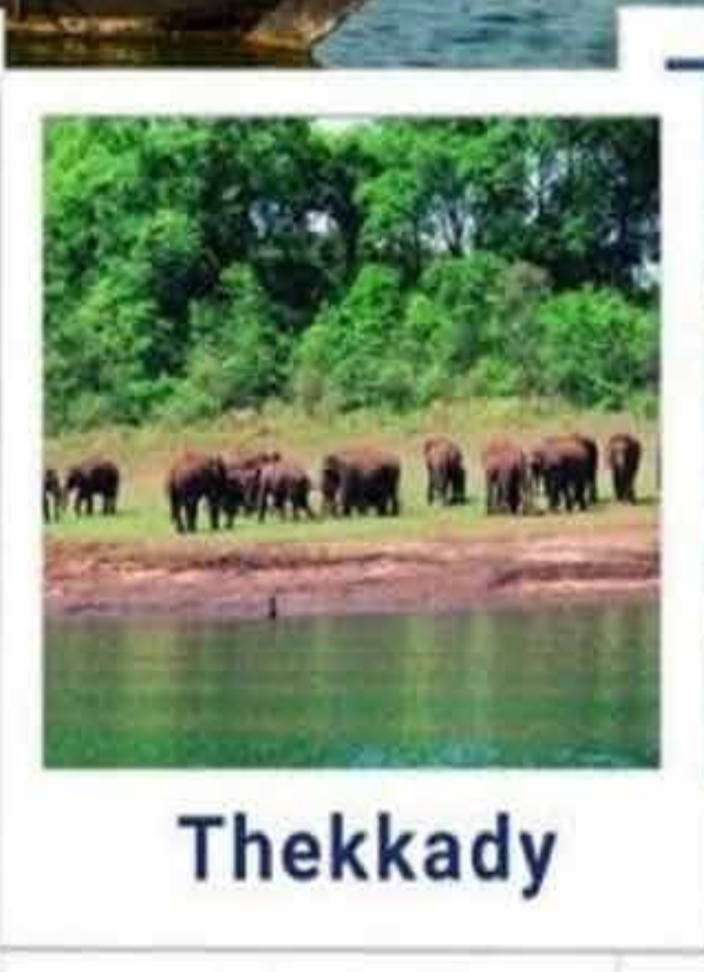


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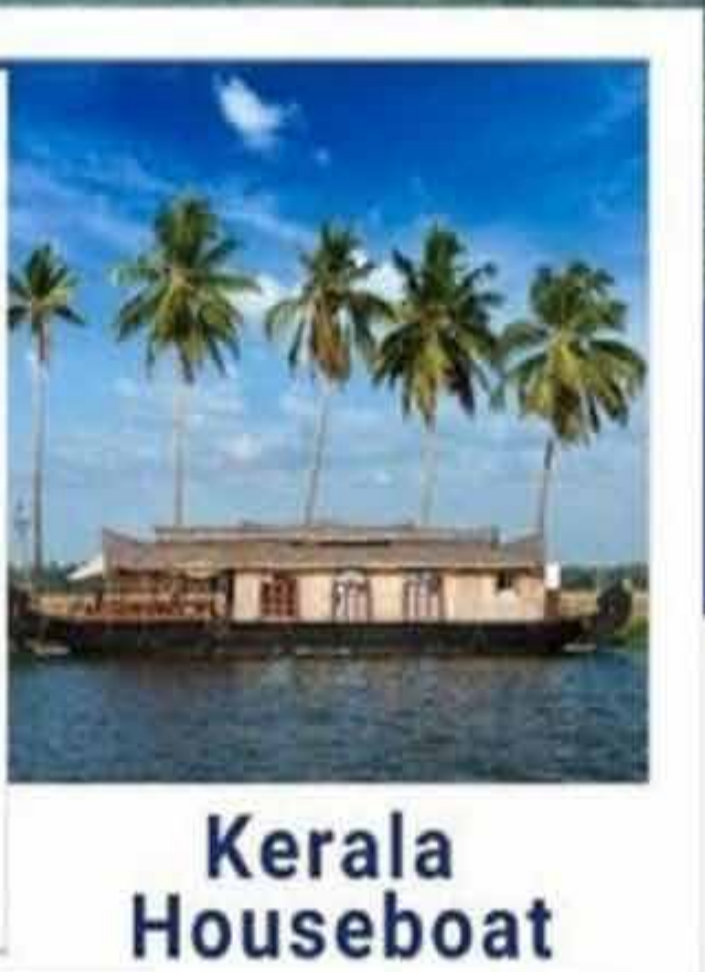
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GULF FAQs

Court of Appeal can't take decision

Four months ago, I filed a labour case against my employer to claim my late salaries and incentives that I have not received for two years. Currently, the court has granted me these rights, but the problem is that the employer owes me new salaries during the court period, since he did not terminate my services. My question is: What action should I take against my employer to get my new salaries? Can I claim them before the Court of Appeal?

the final requests submitted before the Court of First Instance, provided that new requests are not accepted before the Court of Appeal. This is because the Court of Appeal's response to what the Court of First Instance has not decided upon is a violation of the principle of two-level litigation.

So the Court of Appeal does not have the right to change the content of these requests or create new requests that were not presented to it by the opponents. The request is considered new if it increases or differs from

the child. If you can prove that their interest is to stay with you, instead of their father, then your custody shall be extended. The mentioned Article 156 states that "the right of women to fosterage of a child shall end upon his reaching the age of 11 years, if a male, and 13 years, if a female, unless the court deems that extending this age to the age of maturity, for the male, and up to her marriage, for the female, is in his/her best interest."

You have the right to file a lawsuit to increase the alimony, since more than one year had passed from the date of deciding it. According to Article 64 of the Personal Status Law: "Alimony may be increased or reduced according to the change of circumstances. Save in exceptional circumstances the action in increment or re-

duction of the alimony may not be heard prior to the lapse of one year as of the date of deciding it. The increase or decrease of alimony is computed from the date of claim in court."

But the burden to prove that your ex-husband's salary had been increased lies on you, according to Article-1 of the Federal Decree by Law No. (35) Of 2022, promulgating the Law of Evidence in Civil and Commercial Transactions which states that: "1. The plaintiff has the right to prove his claim and the defendant has the right to disprove it. 2. The facts to be proven shall be relevant to the action, have a bearing on evidence and be admissible. 3. No judge shall render a judgment based on his personal knowledge."



Article 167 of the Civil Procedure Law states that ("The appeal transfers the action in its state in which it has been before the issuing the appealed decision in relation to what the appeal has prosecuted only. The new requests shall not be accepted in the appeal, and the court shall decide on its own accord with the disapproval.")

The appeal, according to the above Article, shall be submitted to the Court of Appeal with

the request previously presented before the Court of First Instance, in the matter or liabilities or amount.

Based on the above, you have to file a new case to request for your new salaries unless you clearly claimed in the Court of First Instance that the employer should pay your salaries that have arisen from the date of filing the lawsuit and during the trial; therefore, the court will be obliged to check and decide about such request.

Alimony and child custody

I am a Muslim woman. Two years ago, I got a divorce ruling and custody of my children -- two sons and a daughter. Last year, the two boys turned 13 years old and the girl turned 14 years old. Currently, my ex-husband wants to file a lawsuit to gain custody of all my children because they have reached the legal age, according to my ex-husband. My

question: Does my ex-husband have the right to gain child custody? Do I have the legal right to file a lawsuit to demand an increase in alimony because my ex-husband's salary had increased?

Your husband has the right to file a case to forfeit your custody as per Article 156 of the Personal Status Law, but it's up to the court to decide about it, as per the interest of

End-of-service dues

I have been working in a private company for five years. About three years ago, the company asked me to work for the company's branch outside UAE, and I worked there for a year, after which I returned to work for the company in UAE again. Currently, I have submitted my resignation, but the employer refuses to give me my end-of-service dues for the period of one year during which I worked in the company's branch outside UAE. He also refuses to give me my entitlements for annual leave allowance for a period of three years. According to the employer's statement, I am not entitled to end-of-service allowance for a period of one year, considering that this service has nothing to do with the company's branch in UAE. And as for vacation, I am entitled to only one year's allowance. My question is: What is the position of the law on the employer's behaviour and what are the legal procedures that must be followed to obtain my rights?

To answer such question, I would advise the questioner that: You have to file a complaint in the labour department. If the matter is not settled amicably, you have to

transfer the matter to the court. The employer, as per Article-12 of the labour law no. 33 of 2021, may assign the worker to undertake work not agreed upon in the employment contract, provided that the worker provides his consent in writing. You have to prove that the employer assigned you for such work.

You may use all tools of evidences included but not limited to the salary transfer, any written emails, documents etc. because, the burden of proving what you claim falls on you.

Regarding the annual leave allowances, the employer shall grant you the annual leave regardless of the leave duration. This is stated in Article 29 of the same law, the employee shall be entitled to a wage for the accrued leave days if he quits the work before using them, regardless of the leave duration, with respect to the period for which he did not obtain his leave.

The employee shall also be entitled to receive leave wage for parts of the year in proportion to the period he spent in work and it shall be calculated according to the basic wage.

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PART-III (Continuing from the previous issue)

ELIGIBILITY / Educational Qualifications:

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Pharmacy (Diploma/Bachelor/Master/P.hd programmes)- Pharmacy is the science and tech-



nique of making, preparing, and administering medications, as well as providing extra clinical services like immunisations, health screenings, and guidance on matters like quitting smoking or managing illnesses like diabetes and asthma. It is a profession that links health sci-

and medications. Pharmacists can conduct research and contribute to the creation of new medications as a qualified pharmacist. Being a pharmacist has several advantages, including steady employment, constant demand and chances for ongoing professional development.

diverse career options in pharmacies, hospitals, clinics, and pharmacies, or pursues a career as a research scientist. One advantage of being a pharmacist is that you can use your degree to work in a variety of non-scientific roles (like sales or regulatory affairs) in the pharmaceutical industry, work as an academic researcher or medical writer, open your own independent pharmacy, or start your own business by working with others to develop healthcare products.

* **GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES & MOBILITY-** The profession of pharmacy is now highly sought-after due to global opportunities and mobility. With a pharmacy degree under your belt, you can work practically anywhere in the world and obtain accreditation in the majority of other nations. * **COM-**

PETITIVE SALARIES & BENEFITS- Competitive salaries and benefits have made pharmacy a rewarding career that can lead to even greater job satisfaction. Salary increases as pharmacists gain experience and take on additional responsibilities, such as moving into higher management positions or specialized in areas. * **HIGH GLOBAL DEMANDS -** The rise of chronic disease and the need for more personalised patient care underscore the importance of pharmacy and the growing need for more pharmacists. Thanks to technological

developments in health-care and the availability of online health services, pharmacists are now able to support global health initiatives that tackle problems like pandemics and guarantee that developing nations have access to necessary medications.

ELIGIBILITY / Educational Qualifications (Bachelor Programmes)-

* A person can become a pharmacist or chemist by taking one of several available courses. The pharmacy programmes are offered at four different levels: Diploma in Pharmacy, Bachelors in Pharmacy, Master in Pharmacy, and Doctor Degree in Pharmacy. * **Diploma in Pharmacy:** A person has to pass the 10+2 exam with a minimum of 50pc in Physics, Chemistry, Biology, or Mathematics. This course is known as D.Pharm. * **Bachelor in Pharmacy (B.Pharm or Pham B):** A person has to pass the 10+2 exam with a minimum of 50pc in Physics, Chemistry, Biology or Mathematics. This course is known as B.Pharm and it is one of the most popular courses in the field of medicine. * **Master in Pharmacy:** A person needs to pass the 10+2 exam with the above-mentioned subjects. Also, a person has to qualify for the B.Pharm course successfully with a minimum of 50pc. * **Pham D (Doctor of Pharmacy):** The course duration is six years, of which one year of internship is mandatory. A person has to pass the 10+2 exam with Physics and Chemistry as mandatory subjects, and one of the two must be either Mathematics or Biology. * **P.h.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences:** This is a doctorate-level programme in the medical science field. A candidate could pursue this course after completing the Master of Pharmacy (M. Pharm). **(To be continued in Part IV).**



es with pharmaceutical sciences to ensure the safe and effective use of pharmaceutical drugs. Graduates of pharmacy programmes can work directly with patients in a clinic or hospital or they can apply their knowledge as research scientists to assist in the discovery and development of new medications.

What does a pharmacist do & is pharmacy a good career?-

In addition to managing and dispensing medications, pharmacists also perform health screenings and assist in educating patients about their conditions

Pharmacy is not only a worthwhile profession, but it also pays well.

Exciting Benefits of Pharmacy Career- * Fulfilling a vital healthcare role-Beyond merely dispensing medication, pharmacy plays a crucial role in healthcare. In addition to the care that a patient receives from their doctor, pharmacists offer vital information and healthcare services. In order to help avoid medication errors or adverse reactions, as a qualified pharmacist, you would oversee and manage patient plans. * **DIVERSE CAREER OPTIONS-** It unfolds